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## Prevalence and impact of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in a rural district of Uganda

van Gemert, Frederik

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## **Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift**

### **Prevalence and impact of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in a rural district of Uganda**

#### **FRESH AIR methodology for sub-Saharan Africa**

1. In sub-Saharan Africa household air pollution is the biggest risk factor for the development of COPD. *(this thesis)*
2. Reliance on wood for domestic energy is in itself a marker for poverty. *(this thesis)*
3. Exposure to risk factors for the development of COPD is determined by socioeconomic status, gender, and cultural factors. *(this thesis)*
4. Women are more exposed to indoor and outdoor biomass smoke than men, both hours per day and number of years, resulting in an early development of COPD. *(this thesis)*
5. "TB-negative" is an often-mentioned diagnosis among people with respiratory symptoms in rural areas of sub-Saharan Africa. *(this thesis)*
6. A person with COPD in sub-Saharan Africa accepts symptoms and limitations as a part of life. *(this thesis)*
7. A silent growing epidemic of COPD is unfolding among more than half a billion biomass-exposed individuals in sub-Saharan Africa. *(this thesis)*
8. Before starting an intervention program, it is vital to understand the importance of national and local traditions, including the values and beliefs they represent. *(this thesis)*
9. Je hoeft geen winnaar te zijn door iemand de wind uit de zeilen te halen.
10. Onderwijs is het sterkste wapen om de wereld te veranderen. *(Nelson Mandela)*
11. Een kikker in de put kent de grote zee niet. *(Japans gezegde)*
12. Men moet iemand die honger heeft geen vis geven, maar hem leren vissen. *(Japans gezegde)*
13. Wat je ook kunt, of droomt dat je kunt, begin eraan. *(Goethe)*